

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (New): An optical switch configured to be mounted between first optical lines, each including one or more optical channels having a rank within their optical line, and one or more second optical lines, each including one or more optical channels having a rank within their optical line, the optical switch comprising:

selection means including at least one selection element configured to select a single optical channel from among a set of at least two optical channels of the first optical lines or second optical lines, the optical channels of the set having the same rank, the selection element including at least one deviation element associated with at least one deflection element configured to assume plural angular positions; and

connection means for coupling the selected optical channel to one of the channels of the second optical lines or of the first optical lines respectively.

Claim 26 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein it is reversible.

Claim 27 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein one of the angular positions is a rest position located between two active positions.

Claim 28 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein each of the optical channels is configured to convey a light beam, wherein the deviation element is a deviation lens, and the optical channels of the set are configured such that light beams

originating from the optical channels take their origin at a focal point object of the deviation lens, the deflection element being placed at the focal point image of the deviation lens.

Claim 29 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein each of the at least one selection element is combined into one or more selection modules.

Claim 30 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 29, wherein each selection module includes N selection elements connected in parallel, the deviation elements and the deflection elements of the N selection elements being arranged as small rods of N elements.

Claim 31 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 29, wherein the connection means is located between two selection modules.

Claim 32 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 29, wherein the connection means is located after a selection module.

Claim 33 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein the connection means includes at least one optical connection in free or guided space.

Claim 34 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 33, wherein the optical connection in free or guided space comprises at least one small rod of lenses.

Claim 35 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein the connection means includes a liaison module.

Claim 36 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein the connection includes point-to-point switching elements.

Claim 37 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 36, wherein the point-to-point switching elements include a cascade with a first deflection module, a liaison module, and a second deflection module.

Claim 38 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 37, wherein the first and second deflection modules include small rods.

Claim 39 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 37, wherein the cascade is inserted between a first shaping module and a second shaping module.

Claim 40 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 39, wherein the first and second shaping modules include small rods.

Claim 41 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 37, wherein a deflection module of the point-to-point switching elements includes one or more conjugation elements between one or more first deflection elements and one or more second deflection elements.

Claim 42 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 41, wherein the conjugation elements of a deflection module are arranged in a small rod.

Claim 43 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 41, wherein the first and second deflection elements are arranged as small rods.

Claim 44 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 41, wherein one or more deflection elements of at least one deflection module of the point-to-point switching elements are combined with one or more deflection elements of the selection means.

Claim 45 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, having $2N$ input channels and N output channels, wherein the selection means includes a selection module of N selection elements mounted in parallel, and the connection means includes a point-to-point switch, the selection module and the point-to-point switch including small rods of N lenses and small rods of N mirrors configured to assume at least two angular positions.

Claim 46 (New): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, having $2N$ input channels and $2N$ output channels, wherein the selection means includes an input selection module, an output selection module, and switching means of a point-to-point switch located between the input selection module and the output selection module, the selection modules including N selection elements mounted in parallel, the selection modules and the point-to-point switch including small rods of N lenses and small rods of N mirrors configured to assume at least two angular positions.

Claim 47 (New): An optical switch having $2N$ input channels and N output channels, comprising:

selection means formed by a selection module of N selection elements mounted in parallel;

connection means formed by a point-to-point switch, the selection module and the point-to-point switch including small rods of N lenses and small rods of N mirrors configured to assume at least two angular positions.

Claim 48 (New): An optical switch having $2N$ input channels and $2N$ output channels, comprising:

selection means formed by an input selection module, an output selection module, and switching means formed by a point-to-point switch located between the input selection module and the output selection module,

the input and output selection modules including N selection elements mounted in parallel, the input and output selection modules and the point-to-point switch including small rods of N lenses and small rods of N mirrors configured to assume at least two angular positions.